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FREE INDIA

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Dry Law Success Rests On Proper Reform of Guilty

['The subordinate courts spend 40 per cent of their time in dealing with Prohibition cases. The police devote 30 per cent of their time and labour in enforcing the Prohibition Act. The jail Department on an average spends 25 per cent of its time and labour to the treatment of these offenders. In spite of these efforts, we have still a long way to go". And why ? The question is answered by Mr P. Paramaguru, I. P. S., Inspector general of Prisons, Tamil Nadu in a thought-provoking paper presented at a seminar organised by the Indian Society of Criminology recently.]

The word "Prohibition" is commonly used to refer to legislation whereby "illicit manufacture, consumption, possession, sale or transport of liquor is legally forbidden". The Prohibition Act is a Social legislation intended to benefit the poorer sections of society and their families. Mahatmaji advocated it fervently and it was first introduced in Tamil Nadu in Salem District on 1-10-1937. After 2 years, it was extended to 3 more districts. When the second world-war broke out, the Act was suspended in November 1943 in all the 4 districts. After the second world-war ended, the Congress ministry came back to power and reintroduced prohibition on 1-10-1946 in 8 districts and extended it throughout the State in a phased programme. The entire State became dry on 30-1-1948 and continued to be so till 1-9-1971, when prohibition was lifted. Later, on 1-9-1974 it was reimposed.

The Constitution of India in Article 47 included prohibition as a directive principle of State policy. The Article reads as follows : "The State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living of the people and the improvements of Public health among its primary duties, and, in particular, the State should endeavour to bring about the prohibition of the consumption (except for medical purposes) of intoxicating drinks".

TWELVE POINT PROGRAMME

In Tamil Nadu, the basic policy of prohibition as enunciated in the Constitution, was implemented as early as in 1937.

The Central Government formulated during 1975 the following 12-point programme :

(i) Discontinuance of advertisements and public inducements relating to drink.

(ii) Stoppage of drinking in public places like hotels, hostels, restaurants and clubs and at public receptions.

(iii) Banning of liquor shops near industrial, Irrigation and other development projects to keep away the workers from drinking.

(iv) No liquor shops are to be allowed along highways and residential areas in towns and villages, nor anywhere near educational institutions, religious places and colonies of labourers.

(v) Pay days in different areas will be uniformly 'dry' days.

(vi) Strict restrictions are to be enforced on motor vehicle drivers and pilots. Any infringement of rules is to be punished

(Contd. on page 7)

Words To Remember

Addressing a meeting at Madurai Race Course, the Prime Minister said People in Tamil Nadu had shown great talent and their ability had helped to raise the efficiency of not only the Government of the State but also at the centre. Unfortunately in the last few years, when the DMK Government came to power, the standard of administration fell down very much and instead of being the first state, Tamil Nadu went behind many states.

"I am proud of India's people for their spirit, ability and determination to face all kinds of hardships. Today the country is at the cross-roads. The great Indian leaders have already shown the way and we have been trying to follow their direction and their guidance.

Indians were capable of great things and they were second to none in the world. There were people who did not like this and hence the country was subjected to pressures, external dangers and internal disturbances. Unfortunately "amongst us there are people who do not look to the wider national interest." They did not realise what they were doing would weaken the country.

The aim was to make India self-reliant—self-reliance not only for the country, but also for all the states, all the different sections of the people and even for the individual. Poverty could not be removed by an outside agency but only by increased production and equitable distribution... Only hard work, unity and march in the right direction could make India progress in the economic and social fields.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

Let me explain what I mean by religion. It is not the Hindu religion which I certainly prize above all other religions, but the religion which transcends Hinduism, which changes one's very nature, which binds one indissolubly to the truth within and which ever purifies.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Oct. 10, 1976

PADDY LEVY GOES

The removal of paddy levy on producers as announced by Tamil Nadu Governor Sukhadia will be welcomed by the peasants who have started cultivation following some showers in certain parts of the State.

The levy by itself may not be of a big burden on the farmers but the methods adopted to collect it by the lower ranks of officials has caused much distress. Very often, it has made the party in power unpopular. Land lords, big and small, will feel relieved as though a new freedom has been won.

The Governor has also said that though restrictions on inter district movement of rice will be removed in view of the formation of southern rice zone, merchants will not be allowed to move paddy from one district to another.

We feel any restriction on movement becomes a source of harassment of the smaller people, while bigger ones some how manage to escape. It is not wrong to say that many small consumers have suffered because of indiscriminate seizures—not always on the district borders.

The centre has taken the responsibility of meeting the entire requirements of Kerala. Godowns in Andhra Pradesh are reported to be bursting, really creating a problem of storage. In Tamil Nadu also, the Government are in a position to maintain the public distribution system—"for the benefit of the weaker sections and to prevent the rise in prices in the open market."

The Governor's assurance that the Government would step in to purchase from producers to prevent distress sales is sure to enthuse farmers to put in greater efforts to grow more.

Constitutional Amendments

Steps For Socio-Economic Advancement Of People

By

Dr. V.A. SEYID MUHAMMAD

Union Minister of State for Law & Justice

THERE are certain points which any serious minded person has to reckon while examining the constitutional amendments proposed by the Government. It is not the post emergency situation alone which has prompted the Prime Minister, the Government or the Congress Party to start the exercise of considering constitutional amendments. It is not a fact that it is the anxiety arising out of the recent court decisions, on the part of those who are concerned with bringing about the amendments that is solely responsible for the initiation of the proposals. Nor is it a fact that the Government and the Prime Minister wanted to concentrate more power in their hands.

Even at the time of the framing of the Constitution opinions were expressed that provision should be made in the Constitution for periodic review of the constitution in the light of the experience gained during a certain length of time. Pandit Nehru himself had more than once stated the desirability of reviewing the Constitution at regular intervals of 25 years. It may be recalled that in order to adapt the Constitution for the changed circumstances a number of constitutional amendments (41) were made from time to time in the course of the last 25 years. Critical views were expressed that the Constitution is subject to constant amendments which is not a desirable thing to do. In this background certain developments also precipated a situation where a fresh look at the Constitution became imperative. One is the rapid strides which the present Prime Minister wants to take in the socio-economic field. The Bank Nationalisation case, the abolition of Privy Purse, the economic programmes contemplated in the 1971 election manifesto of the Congress Party are examples to the point. These steps taken and proposed to be taken were faced with a situation wherein by reason of a number of court decisions both by the Supreme Court and the High Courts definite compulsions arose for appropriate constitutional amendments. The large scale smuggling, hoarding, foreign exchange manipulations and anti-social and anti-national activities which almost shattered the national economy created a situation by which legislatures and the Government were compelled to take very stringent measures. Here again the approach of the courts towards legislative and executive measures adopted to combat these monstrous evils also pointed the way towards the necessity of constitutional amendments. The anti-democratic forces which behind the facade of democratic freedoms unleased counter-revolutionary forces and brought the nation to a nightmarish state of impending disaster to the very democratic to the very democratic system, law and order and even the very security and communal harmony in the entire country. Vast sections of the Press own d, controlled encouraged and instigated by vested interests and reactionary forces both inside and outside the country abused the freedom of speech and expression to such an extent that curbs had to be put. All this generated a compelling situation where appropriate amendments to the Constitution became necessary. It will therefore be seen that it is the cumulative effect of those developments and happenings in the country which ultimately led to the decision by the Prime Minister to inaugurate an extensive national debate on the entire question of constitutional amendments. It is in this situation and background that the Congress President appointed, the Swaran Singh Committee which started deliberations earnestly, sincerely and with an open mind.

From various quarters, since the time of the very inception of the Swaran Singh Committee, views have been expressed that a true national debate as contemplated by Prime Minister is not either taking place or is not possible at all in the prevailing circumstances when some of the leading personalities of the opposition are under detention and there is press censorship. It is not necessary to go into the theoretical aspects of those objections. What one is concerned with is what really happened and whether a true and effective national debate has taken place and whether such a debate is going on. Any body who examines this question impartially cannot deny the following facts :

WRONG ALLEGATIONS

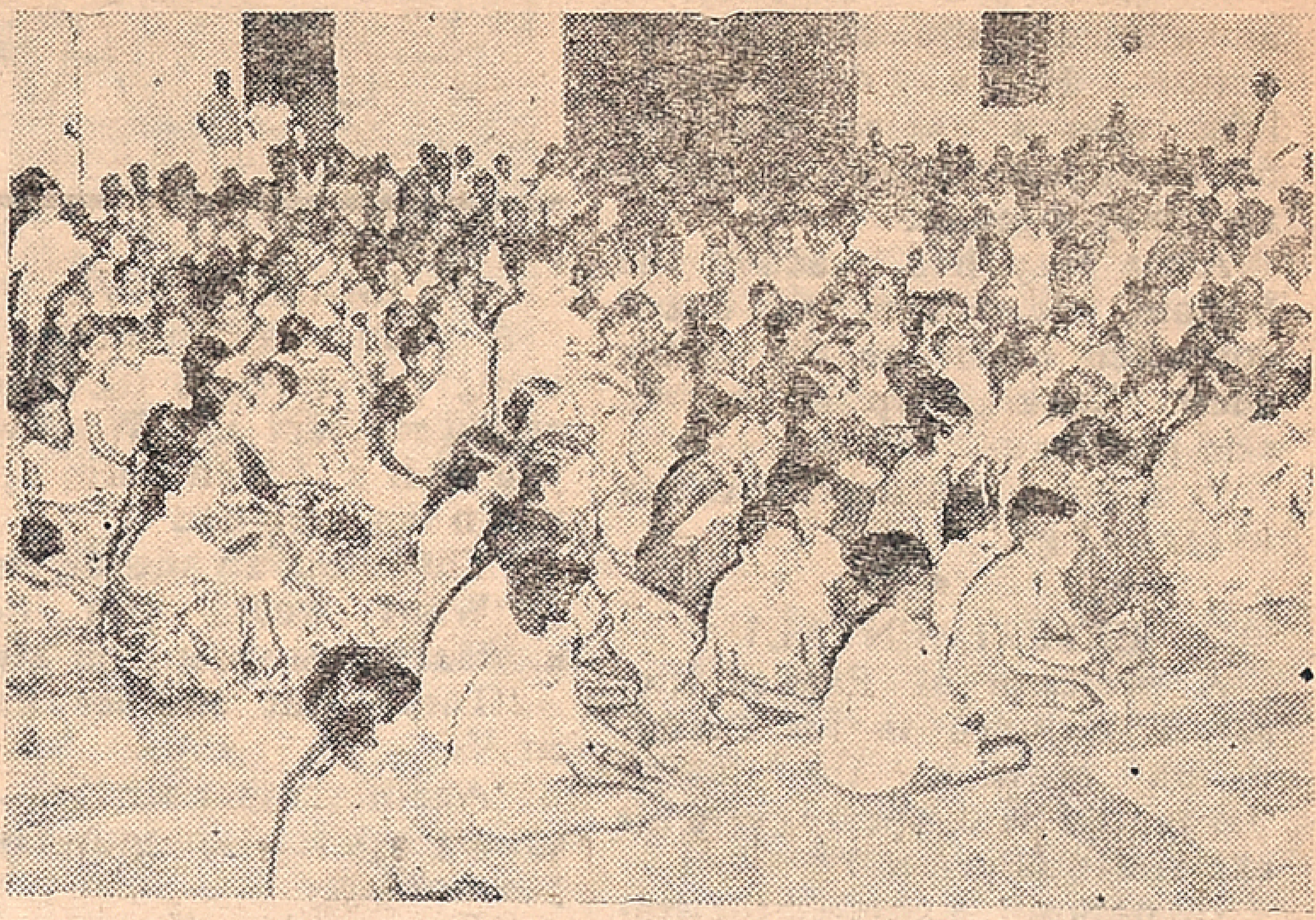
Innumerable articles have been written and published, speeches have been made, discussions have taken place through the media of radio. Letters, notes and memoranda in hundreds have been written to the Prime Minster, to the Congress President to the Swaran Singh Committee as a whole, to the individual members of the Committee and to the Law Minister. A large number of Bar Association and the leading members of the Bar, Members of Parliament and academicians and publicmen submitted memoranda and also came personally before Swaran Singh Committee and expressed their opinions. Newspapers have made both editorially and otherwise comments and non-official committees of opposition members and publicmen examined the matter and sent their comments. The Bar Association of India under the leadership of Mr. Daphtary, Shanti Bhushan and others also passed resolutions expressing their views. The Swaran Singh Committed shifted classified, studied, examined, applied their minds and considered in all earnestness, sincerity, honesty and objectivity this huge volume of materials. The Committee adopted a number of points raised through this debate, sometimes modified their own views in the light of the debate and the tentative recommendations made by the Committee were adopted in the open session of the A.I.C C, and the discussions were reported widely in in the national Press and the reactions on these were received by the Swaran Singh Committee which were considered in great detail. The Committee also received notes and comments from most of the Advocates General of the States. The final report of the Swaran Singh Committee has taken birth after this lengthy, detailed, open and thorough debate which has been going on for the last five to six months. In these circumstances, the allegaiion that there was no effective national debate is utterly wrong and unsustainable.

By this time the entire country knows the contents of the Swaran Singh Committee in detail. One of the most significant and salient features is the proposed chapter on Fundamental Duties. As every body knows, the Constitution contains

(Contd. on page 7)

Sri Sai Baba Mahasamadhi Day Celebrations

H. H. Swami Kesavaiahji's Message



A section of the devotees who attended the celebrations

"Have implicit faith in the mercy of Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi and chant His sacred name at least seven times a day. He is an embodiment of love. He will protect all those who surrender to Him. Hear his stories with respect and think and meditate on them and assimilate them. This is the way for happiness and contentment", observed H. H. Swami Kesavaiahji, the Founder-President of Sri Sai Baba Bhaktha Samajam (Regd.), Shenoy Nagar, Madras in his message on the occasion of SRI SAI BABA MAHASAMADHI DAY CELEBRATIONS held under the auspices of the Samajam at SRI SHIRDI SAI BABA MANDIR, Shenoy Nagar, on October 3. Swamiji further observed that Sri Sai Baba's teachings, if put into practice, would eradicate the social evils which still confront the society. He also wished that the Mandir named after Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi, who is above region or religion should emerge as an international centre for devotees and the religious-minded.

PRACTICAL HUMANIST

A lad of sixteen years visited Shirdi People called him Sai Baba. His birth, parentage, life and doings till he went to Shirdi form a mystery. Though the beggars have become kings by His grace, he was begging his food till his last day. He was a practical humanist. His life and work are significant and cannot fail to have its due hold on human thought. He blessed His devotees with health, off spring or even spiritual illumination and relieved them from sorrows of life. He is active even today in his infinite aspect after His maha-samadhi in the year 1918.

Messages wishing the sacred function a success were received among others from Mr. Fakruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India; Sri V. V. Giri, Former-President of India; Sri B. D. Jatti, Vice-President of India; Sri K. Brahmananda Reddi, Home Minister of India; Sri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister of India; Sri Mohanlal Sukhadia, Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Earlier, there was a concert of devotional songs by Sri K. Veeramani and his party for nearly two hours. Swamiji Honoured him with a ponnadai.

More than 2,000 devotees from different parts of the city and far off places like Bangalore, Vuyyur, Rajampetah, Cuddapa, Vayalpad, Nellore etc., attended the function. Swamiji performed special Pooja to Sri Sai Baba of Shirdi on this occasion and distirbuted Udhi and Prasadam to the satisfaction of all.

WITHER MAN!

Away from gloom, Away from doubt
Who can this song loudly sing
Who can "I am sinless" Boldly Shout
I fear not God, Man, Saints or king
For I am free to chose my ways
And Be happy in them always.

Away from fear, Away from needs
I am on the green lands of gains
I care no Peace, I care no creeds
For I am free from griefs and pains
I am a monarch for I reign
My life and keep it free from strains.

Then god will say, Welcome, Man so fair
Welcome your guesses but when you cry
In distress, You will at heavens stare
And raise your voice towards the sky
But the lord will say, I know you not
For against me you rebelled and fought.

DR. E. GILBERT.

Vellai and Ramachandran two of the agricultural workers belonging to Vembedu village in Madurai district who were presented with land in Pudu village in the same district recently under the twenty point programme.

Fun And Laughter

PARTING KICK

A man slipped on an escalator and started to slide down to the bottom. Half way down he collided with a woman, knocking her down, and the two continued their way together.

After they had reached the bottom, the woman, still dazed continued to sit on the man's chest. Looking up at her he said politely :

"I'm sorry, madam, but this is as far as I go."

* * *

EXPERIMENTAL!

A professor of English literature included in his examination questions the query : "What did Shakespeare do in his experimental period?"

He naturally expected the students to provide the titles of some of the great master's early plays, but one knowing young lady removed the curse of dull ness from her paper by replying. "He married Anne Hathaway."

* * *

MODERN AGE

On holiday in the country for the first time, a very small Glasgow boy chanced to see in the garden a large spider spinning an outsize web.

Excitedly he rushed into the house with the cry: "Come quick. Auntie—there's an animal fixing up wireless."

IMAGINATIVE

A young naval student was being put through the paces by an old sea-captain. "What would you do if a sudden storm sprang up on the starboard ?"

"Throw out an anchor, sir."

"What would you do if another storm sprang up aft?"

"Throw out another anchor sir."

"And if another terrific storm sprang up forward, what would you do?"

"Throw out another anchor."

"Hold on," said the captain, "where are you getting all your anchors from ?"

"From the same place you're getting your storms, sir."

* * *

ZIG ZAG

The motorist was in court for having struck a pedestrian. "Don't you know that it is your duty to do everything you can to avoid hitting a pedestrian?" asked the judge severely. "Yes, sir," was the answer. "Then why didn't you zigzag your car and miss him," demanded the judge. "I tried that, Your Honour," said the motorist, "but he was zigzagging too and zagged when I thought he was going to zig."

* * *

LAST STRAW

Nurse: How's the pain in the back?

Patient: Getting better.

Nurse: How's the pain in your head?

Patient: That's okay.

Nurse: How's the pain in the kneck.

Patient: She's out at some luncheon.

FINE

The museum attendent approached the millionaire. Smoking is forbidden here, sir," he said. "You are liable to a fine of ten shillings."

"Well, here's a pound note." replied the culprit.

"I have no change, sir," said the attendant.

The millionaire turned to his secretary and handed him a cigar. "Here, John, smoke as well."

* * *

HIS TURN

"The trouble with you is the same as with Mr. Brown, said the doctor. "He worried and got nervous dyspepsia. He was worrying himself to death about his grocer's bill. Now he's cured."

"But how did you cure him?' asked the patient.

"I told him to stop worrying. and he did," replied the doctor.

"I know," was the sad reply. "But I'm his grocer."

* * *

TOO HIGH

A man who had been stopping at a fashionable hotel was paying his bill. He looked up at the girl cashier and asked what it was she had around her neck.

"A ribbon, of course," she answered. "Why?"

'Well, he replied, "everything else around here is so high that I thought perhaps it was your garter."

* * *

THE BEST WAY

' What is the best way to keep milk from going sour ?"

"Leave it in the cow."

SHOP TALK

Barber: I hear you came from abroad the other day !

Client: Yes.

Barber : Visited many countries, I guess?

Client : Yes.

Barber: Been to Britain?

Client: Yes.

Barber: And France ?

Client: Yes.

Barber: And to Italy, too?

Client: Yes.

Barber: And did you go to Rome?

Client: Yes.

Barber: Did you see the Vatican?

Client: Yes.

Barber: And did you meet the Pope?

Client: Yes.

Barber: And what did he say to you?

Client: He said, "Who gave you that lousy hair-cut?"

FACE SAVING

The very stout gentleman had made a desperate effort to catch the train but had failed. As he stood panting and fumming, the kindly porter came up and enquired:

"Have you missed your train, sir?"

Behind the soft answer lay murderous intent:

"Oh dear! no; I didn't like the look of it so I chased it off the platform."

* * *

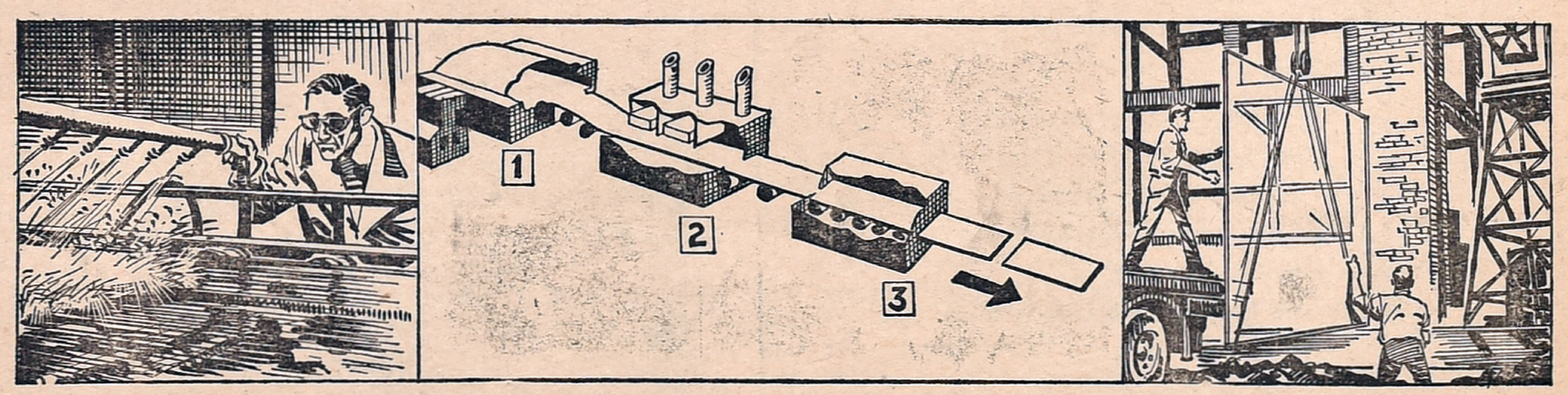
PROXY!

A man threw a rupee towards the blind man's cup. The coin missed and rolled along the pavement, but the man with the dark glasses quickly recovered it.

"But I thought you were blind?"

"No, I am not the regular blind man, sir," he said, "I'm just taking his place while he's at the movies."

How Its Made

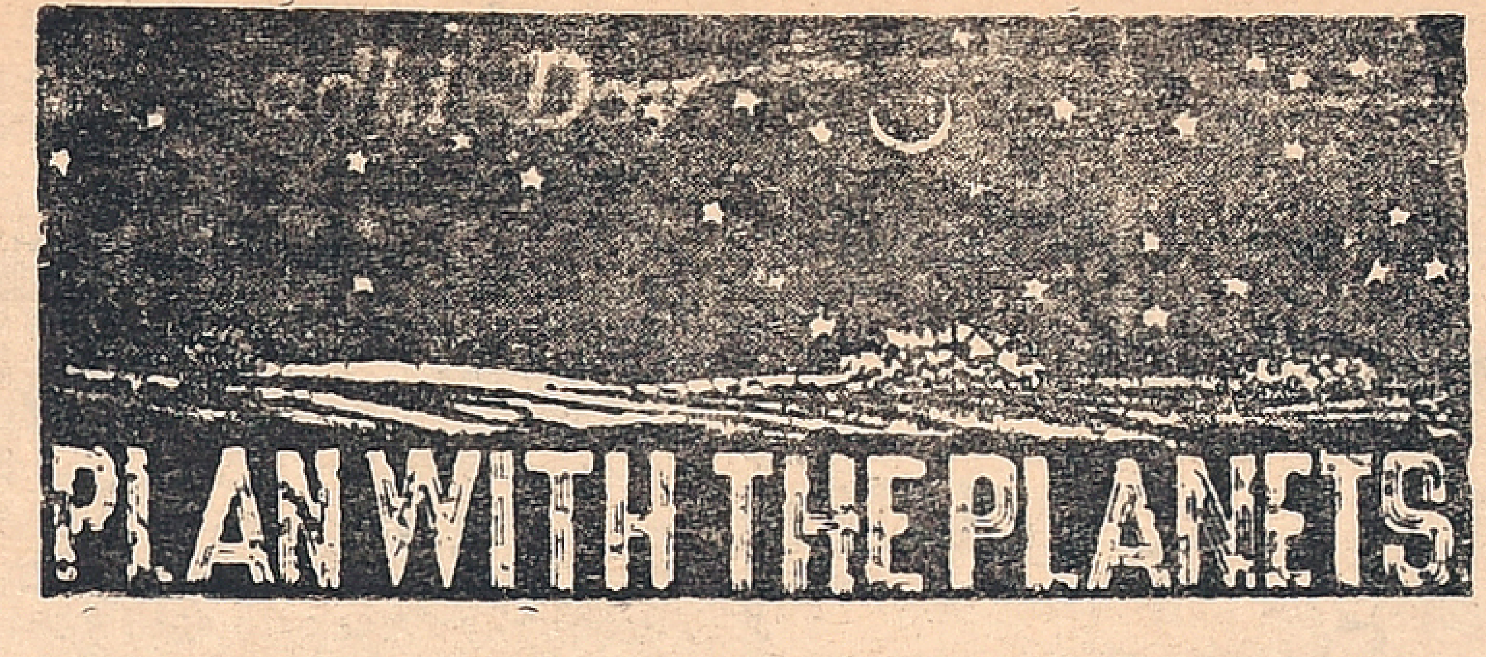


He reasoned that by floating molten glass on top of a bath of molten metal top and bottom faces of the glass would even out perfectly under the influence of gravity. Proving the soundness of his theory and building the first plant cost £7 million before Pilkingtons could announce success in 1959.

In the float glass process a continuous feed of raw materials is made to the furnace From its melting tank (1) molten glass flows to the float bath (2). In this it floats on molten tin in a controlled atmosphere. Heater sequences are arranged through the bath to prevent premature cooling and loss of "fire finish."

First stage cooling takes place at the outlet end of the float bath—again in controlled conditions—and continues in an annealing chamber (3) or "lehr". Since glass made this way needs no polishing or grinding it can then be cut into standard sheets for warehousing.

Pilkington's first plant made glass about 6 m. m. thick—determined by natural forces in the float-bath. About half the market for quality flat glass is for this thickness. Methods have been found for changing the thickness by varying the process speed. High speed thins the resultant glass, low speed thickens it.



For The Week 10th October To October 16th, 1976

MESHA

SUNDAY is indifferent and you must avoid exertion. Financial strain and ill health are likely. From midweek, there is scope for progress. At home conditions are as usual. Official atmosphere shows little change. Residential problems and emotional difficulties are seen. You are tempted to buy some luxuries. If you have any speculative transaction, be content with a small gain.

★

RISHABA

SUNDAY is good for completing outstanding work. Family affairs call for closer look. Financial inconvenience, worries short profession and some difficulties in human relations are seen. But, the normal official work goes unimpeded. Tuesday and Wednesday call for caution Finance and health call for closer attention. The rest of the week is uninteresting. With patience, continue the efforts taken already.

★

MITHUNA

MOST of the week is ordinary. But, Friday and Saturday are expensive with worries. Avoid argument. Expenses are high. Weakness and strain in family are indicated. Pray to God. Difference of opinion, obstacles in your undertaking and different kinds of pressure are seen. The week is not good in general.

★

KATAKA

SUNDAY is not impressive. From Monday the week is useful. Expenses are taxing. While there is a mixed atmosphere at home, ill health and weakness are some indications. Official work is satisfactory. Emotional problems may be there. Patience and a sort of resignation will avoid unnecessary rupture and mental agony. Pray to God. Look to the natal indications for any bright spot. Some of you will find the time trying.

★

SIMHA

THERE is not much change in your affairs. While some improvement is possible in profession or your mental out-look a feeling of dissatisfaction coupled with money pressure will drive you into melancholy. Pray to God. Do your duty. Perseverance is very necessary now. Avoid speculation. Some hard thinking is necessary at home. Friends in practice are of little service to you now.

★

KANYA

SUNDAY is good for contacts though a weak tendency is seen. You can enjoy life. In office, you find conditions somewhat stagnating. Property affairs are all-right. Try to complete your work. Physical weakness is seen. Your intellectual work is affected. But, you can expect some reward for past work done. The week is mixed.

★

THULA

THE week opens with much thought on family matters. Finance is weak. Domestic affairs are not up to expectations. Midweek is good for progress. Take care of health. Purchase of property calls for caution. Do not expand financial commitments. You can expect favourable correspondence or some help from friends. There is need for keeping peace with your relatives.

★

VRISCHIKA

SUNDAY will be somewhat stimulating. Try to get your dues with out allowing them to run. Public relations are good. Official work is O.K. But, unless you are extra careful, some misunderstanding is likely. At home, past commitments call for a relook. Health needs care. Your attitude will change in respect of some persons near to you. Expenses will again go up.

★

THANUS

MONDAY and Tuesday are good for personal matters. Midweek highlights finance. At home you have to be patient, and avoid argument. Political and social matters are encouraging. Help from others and better trends in business are seen Try to avail opportunities. Do not postpone matters which can be done immediately. Health needs care. Finance is ordinary.

MAKARA

MOST of the week shows ordinary results. Expenses are high as usual. There is some chronic health trouble. Continue your efforts to maintain good health. Finance is average. In office you can carry on, but you can't expect sudden developments call for continued attention. Business trends are encouraging. But any financial expansion should wait.

★

KUMBA

SUNDAY is O.K. for completing routine affairs. The rest of the week is good for progress. Speculation should be avoided. There is renewed stress on family problems. Though there is no major change in office, you can get along without much difficulty But, do not take final decisions. You will have to put up with some inconvenience.

★

MEENA

THE week is mostly favourable. Finance however, is dull. Family affairs may not give you satisfaction. Property affairs are giving trouble. There is a philosophical outlook. Speculation is not favourable. Violent mental reactions should be avoided. Stomach trouble and fever are likely. Pray to God. But, friends are helpful.

THE FAMOUS ASTROLOGER

(OFFICE ESTD: 1924)

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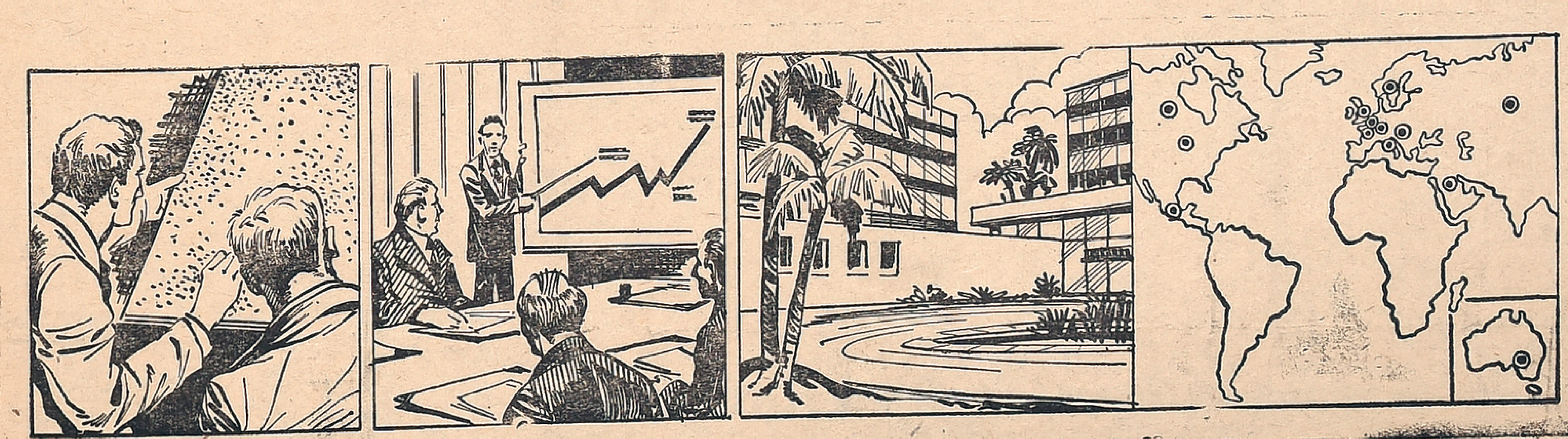
Float Glass



Ingeniously Pilkingtons have now harnessed to their service one of the problems they had to overcome in developing the process. Early on it was found that minute amounts of tin from the float bath sometimes entered the undersurface of the glass ribbon causing surface discolouration during the heating and cooling stages.

Having painstakingly worked to overcome this fault to perfect the production of flawless clear glass the company then saw it had a commercial potential for production of coloured glass. Research into this costing another £1 million took another four years to perfect what was called the "electro-float" process.

This can be added at low cost to any float plant. Changes of production to and from clear glass can be made in minutes. By this metallic oxides can be driven into the glass changing its colour and other qualities. The first application being for bronze-window glass to cut out sun-heat.

Float glass plants have been built under licence from Pilkingtons by manufacturers in 14 countries. These include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, West Germany the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. and now Iran—taking the most modern process back to the region where glass-working began. (END)

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

SOVIET NEWSPAPER ON INDIA'S PUBLIC SECTOR

It was a pleasure for me to read in PRAVDA here a despatch from India by its New Delhi correspondent Veniamin Shurygin, giving a glimpse of the progress made by India's public sector plants. I am all the more happy to know when the correspondent says that at present India's public enterprises figure importantly in the output of many types of key industrial products.

Veniamin Shurygin says; "The Republic builds steel mills, shipyards; makes up-to-date planes and electronic computers practically on its own. Its industry satisfies the country's requirements for tractors and motor vehicles, radio and television sets, mine equipment and many other products the manufacture of which requires a high level of progress of science and technology".

The correspondent has also pointed out that the establishment of the Public Sector in India and its consolidation are closely connected with Indo-Soviet cooperation.

He has referred to the emphasis being given in the development of industry to the public sector as one of the main trends of India's economic progress over the years of independence and says that the experiences indicated that the expansion and strengthening of the sector promotes solution to many complex socio-economic problems which the developing countries encounter.

* * *

A FIRM HANDSHAKE IN THE SKY

For ten days the Indian Flag was hoisted over the parachuting ground near the city of Tula, about 200 kilometres away from Moscow. An Indian team was invited there to participate in the championship held by the Sports Committee of the Friendly Armies. This committee which will soon mark its 20th anniversary, has till recently included the army athletes of the socialist countries but in the past few years it was also joined by the army sportsmen from the developing countries.

In an interview given to the press, the head of the Indian team Major Kumar Mahander has said that the Indian Parachuters had accomplished the task of gaining experience and establishing contacts with the sports committee of the Friendly Armies.

Captain Prakash Chand Kotoch believes that the Tula competitions have been extremely useful for the Indian sportsmen. He stressed that it was a fine school of top most skill for them. The coach Captain Prabhakar Avenash said that the Indian parachuters were going to take part in the future competitions organised by the Sports Committee of the Friendly Armies.

According to Anatoly Sadulin, one of the leading coaches of the Soviet Union, who had continously accompanied the Indian sportsmen on the parachuting ground Tula, with each training session the Indian parachuters improved the technique of controlling the parachute and landing.

Krishna Murthi Shankar, the strongest in the Indian squad was awarded a special prize in Tula.

The Indian team has been invited to come to the USSR once again to take part in the joint training sessions and friendly competitions.

* * *

45 MILLION PENSIONERS

In the Soviet Union there are more than 45 million pensioners today. Women at 55 and men at 60 are eligible for old—age pension. As well a considerable range of people can draw old-age pensions at an earlier age-war invalids, women who work at textile enterprises, people working at highly intensive labour jobs, factory and office workers who worked for a long time in the Far North or in "isolation" locations, etc.

Potential Source Of Fuel

A Nobel Prize-winning chemist says a plant common to desert climates could supply motorists with gasoline indefinitely at a cost competitive with all.

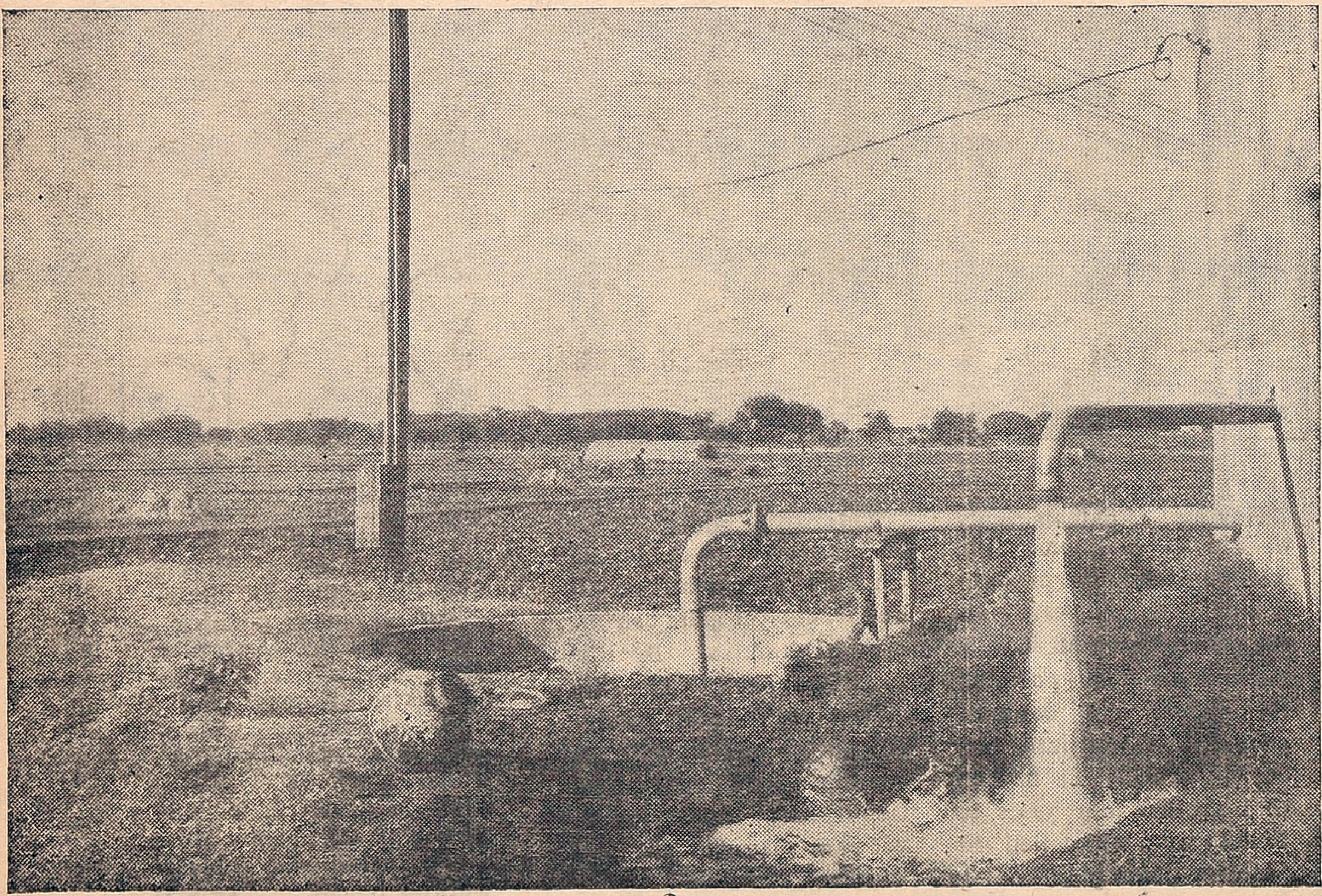
Dr. Melvin Calvin, of the University of California at Berkeley, told a meeting of the American Chemical Society that trees and plants of the genus Euphorbia produce hydrocarbon "exactly like crude oil." The Euphorbia grows wild in desert climates on land unsuitable for other kinds of farming. It produces a juice called latex that, Dr. Calvin said, could be processed into gasoline for an estimated nine dollars per barrel.

Dr. Calvin, who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1961, suggested that major planting of the Euphorbia begin next year in a desert area at the University of California campus in Riverside, California.

Social security allocations are growing constantly and in the current year amount to 34.9 thousand million roubles.

The size of old-age pensions is more than 50 per cent of average wages.

The Soviet pension system is dynamic. The floor pension size of all population groups will be increased during the current 1976-1980 Five-Year Plan and the social security levels for peasants, workers and office employees will be brought closer together. Grants for childhood invalidity will be increased, and mothers of many children, etc., will get greater pension benefits.



This year a record production of 11.6 crore tons of food grains has been achieved. This was mainly because of improved irrigation facilities. In 1975-76 an additional 20 lakh hectares was provided with improved irrigation systems. Last year a sum of Rs. 210 crores was alloted to for the development of small irrigation projects in the country.

From page 1

Dry Law Success Rests On Proper...

with the cancellation of their licences for a sufficiently long period.

(vii) Government servants of all categories, including employees of public undertakings, should abstain from drinking in public; drunkenness while on duty will be severely punished.

(viii) No new liquor shops are to be opened in any part of the country merely to earn more excise revenue.

(ix) No licence for the creation of additional capacity or expansion of existing capacity for distilation or brewing of alcholic drinks should be granted save in 100 percent export-oriented cases.

(x) The existing legislation will be tightened up with a view to punishing the guilty more effectively and special mobile police squads will be organised for the purpose where necessary.

(xi) Widespread and concerted propaganda by official as well as non-official agencies against the evils of drinking.

(xii) Leaders of public opinion will set the tone by their personal example.

ENFORCEMENT

Since the formulation of the above 12-point programme, a beginning is being made in a phased manner in other States with the object of introducing total prohibition in due course.

The enforcement of the Prohibition Act by the Police is viewed with the preventive angle, whereas the Jail department view it with the treatment and reformative angle. The object of preventing any violation of Prohibition Act by erstwhile offenders is better achieved by reforming and rehabilitating them.

The subordinate criminal courts spend 40% of their time in dealing with prohibition cases. The Police devote 30% of their time and labour in enforcing the Prohibition Act. The Jail department on an average spends 25% of its time and labour to the treatment of those offenders. Inspite of those efforts, we have still to go a long way. The number of prohibition offenders increase year after year. In some cases as in Ayanavaram killer brew tragedy, many bread winners have lost their lives. In America the prohibition policy was abandened after a trial of a few years due to various reasons.

The Prohibition Act is wel drafted and certain provisions contrary to accepted criminal policies have been built into it purposely so as to implement it effectively to the benefit of the poorer sections of society. It has deviated from the cardinal principles of criminal law and laid down in Section 4 (2) that it will be presumed until the contrary is known that a person accused of any offence under clauses (a) to (j) of sub-sections (1) has committed such offence in respect of any liquor or intoxicating drug. Similarly provision of minimum sentence for certain offences is like the few exceptional cases in I. P. C. where such minimum sentences is prescribed taking away the discretion of court. Again the dividing line between preparation and commission of the offence is removed and Section 7 (b) says that notwithstanding that no act excepting the agreement was done the offence is complete. S. 15 (c) (i) makes various offences under Sections 4 and 5 non-bailable offences. Since the scope of this paper is limited to the reformation and rehabilitation of these offenders, I do not intend to further dilate on the legal aspects.

(To be Continued)

Universal Chassis

MOSCOW: The self-propelled chassis is now widely used in agriculture. It allows the use of mounted appliances which, unlike trailers, do not need a man to attend to them since all the work is done by the driver. However, existing machines of this type have one serious shortcoming. The setting up of mounted appliances is a lengthy and laborious operation and changing some of them over can take five to six hours. This is particularly inconvenient for vegetable cultivation. The machines often have to be changed several times on small areas of land.

Workers at the USSR Research Institute for the Mechanisation of Agriculture have developed a fundamentally new self-propelled chassis and a number of mounted appliances for it. A special automatic coupling device enables the driver to change the machine into a cultivator, a fertiliser applicator, or an onion-seed drill in a matter of minutes without leaving his cab. It takes five minutes to convert the chassis into a tip-truck. Loading operations are carried out with the aid of a hydraulic device which, depending on the taps of load, can be fitted with a bucket, a boom and pick-up hook or a special grab.

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Constitutional Amendments: Steps For Socio-Economic...

a chapter on Fundamental Rights. It was thought that an over-emphasis hitherto given on the rights has in effect subdued and pushed to the background the duties which a citizen owes to the nations, to the society and his fellow beings. It goes without saying that every right has a corresponding duty, Take a simple example. Eevry person has a right to walk on the public roads. But he has at the same time a duty not to do anything which will impair the exercise of a similar right by any other individual or the members of the public as a whole.

The public property is for the benefit of the general public and every individual has a right within the limits of law to enjoy those benefits. But it is forgotten that every individual has a corresponding duty to safeguard the public property and not to do anything harmful or destructive to the public property. But this is often forgotten as is evident from the fact that even there is any public agitation, whether by the workers, students or any other section of the community, the first casualty has the public property like transport buses, public buildings, telegraph installations, railway lines, etc. One need not give more examples. In these circumstances the Swarn Singh Committee and the A.I.C.C. thought that a chapter on Fundamental Duties is very essential. It may be that some of the duties are covered by the existing statute but that is no reason for not introducing a chapter on Fundamental Duties. A large number of democratic Constitutions in other countries contain chapters of Fundamental Duties.

Another important proposal is the reformation of the powers and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court as well as the High Courts. The arguments for and against this proposal have been throughly debated upon and one need not discuss them here. However, it is thought necessary shortly to deal with the motivated and vicious propaganda which has been going on that the Government is bent upon deliberately cutting down the powers of the courts. This has been refuted on innumerable occasions but it is necessary to state unequivocally and clearly the position of the Government in this regard. A thorough examination of the history of litigation in this connection has revealed that courts have gone far beyond the powers originally given and contemplated by the Constitution. The powers and jurisdiction of the courts under Article 226 in particular were well-defined by the early decisions of the Supreme Court. But gradually the courts expanded their jurisdiction and powers to such an extent that constant and frivelous interference in the legislative and executive fields became the order of the day. Interferences by way of stay became so frequent and prevelant that not only executive and legislative actions were paralysed in many essential socio-economic fields but the judiciary itself began to be subject to unsavoury criticism and ridicule by the general public. This unfortunate situation was not only taken note of by the Government but also by some of the eminent judges of the High Courts themselves. The observations of Chief Justice Govinda Nair in a recent judgment is an example in point. Delays of litigation, arrears in courts, enormous increase in cost of litigation and a plethora of contankerous litigation amouting to abuse of process of court are all factors which led to the re-examination of the powers and jurisdiction of the courts. What is attempted by the proposed amendments is by and large only a reclamation of the encroachments made by the courts.

Another feature of the proposal is the highlighting the Directive Principles. Courts have hitherto treated as if the Fundamental Rights were superior to the Directive Principles. The fact remains that the Fundamental Rights are basically in the nature of individual rights whereas the Directive Principles are duties imposed on the State as fundamentals to the governance of the State and which are designed for the progress of the society as a whole. It was realistically thought that whenever a conflict arises between the interests of the vast majority and the society as a whole on the one hand and the individual rights on the other, the former should prevail in order to achieve social justice and progress of the nation. While this has been the approach of the Swaran Singh Committee, care is taken to see that the minorities' rights contained in the Fundamental Rights chapter should not be interferred with.

In this short article it is not possible to discuss any of the other proposals. It is hoped that the above will throw sufficient light on the salient features of the proposed amendments and will be useful in a small way at least in clearing some of the misunderstandings and motivated propaganda against the proposed amendments and the intention of the Prime Minister, the Government and the ruling party.

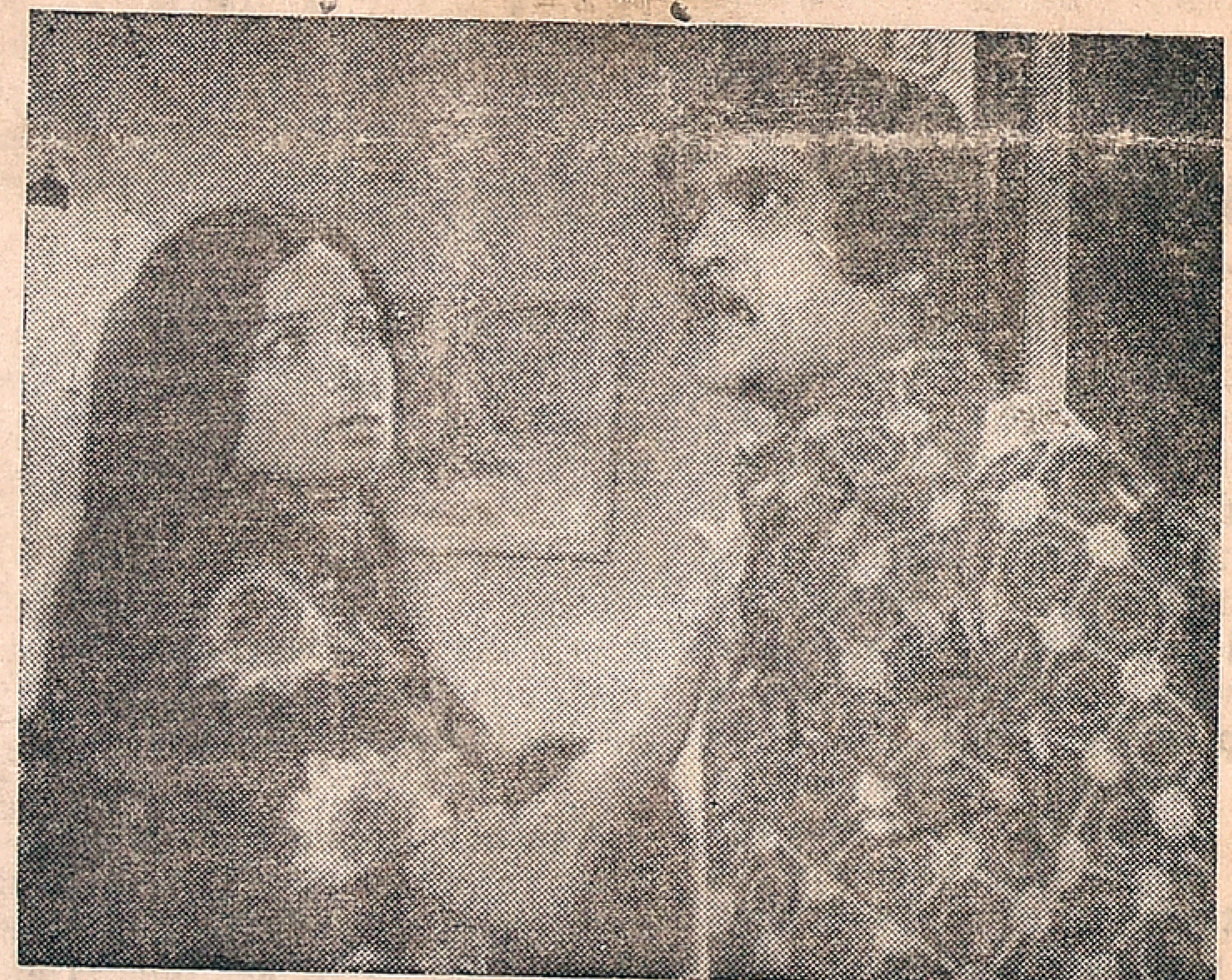
By Courtesy: Mathruibhumi, Illustrated Weekly, Calicut

Film News In Pictures

Muthuraman and Lakshmi in S.S.K. Films "Vazhvu Enpakkam" produced by S. S. Karuppuswamy and directed by Krishnan-Panju.

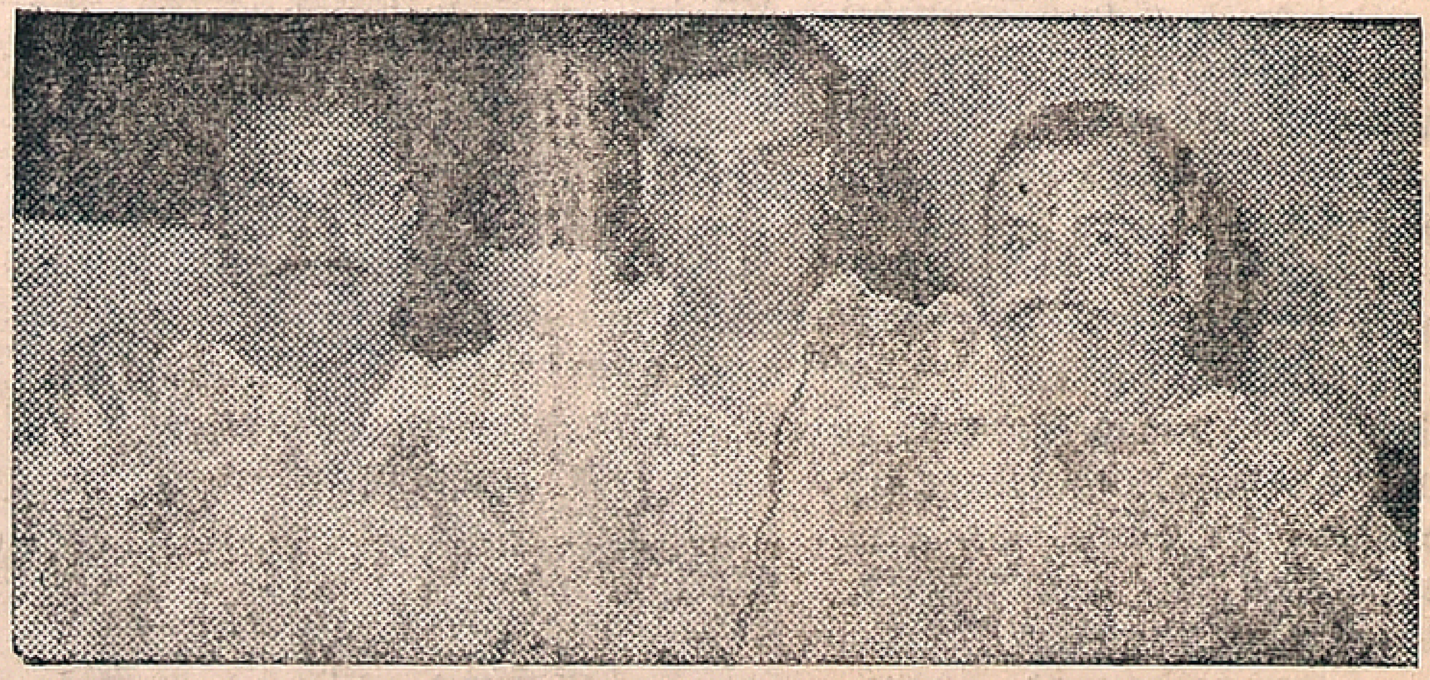
Ravikumar and Unni Mary in Ganesh Pictures' "Madhura Swapnam" in Malayalam directed by M. Krishnan Nair for producer K. P. Kottarakara.

Up coming film star, Sangeetha.



Aalam, frightened by angry Srikant, tries to pacify him. A scene from Devo Arts "Munnooru Nall" in Tamil.

Kavitha as she appears in Chella Pilliar Films 'Amirtha Yogam' in Tamil. K M. Balakrishnan directs for producer Ramakrishnan



Picture taken on the occasion of the recording of a song for Swapna Films latest Malayalam movie shows singer Jesudas flanked by music directors Jaya and Vijaya

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